

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRASIL 05395 112243Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 OES-09 SOE-02
DODE-00 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 PA-01 ICA-11 PM-05
/129 W

-----093914 121754Z /44

R 111538Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8219
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
USDOE WASHDC

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VIENNA FOR USIAEA

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, BR
SUBJ: NUCLEAR ISSUE - BRAZILIAN PRESS EVALUATION OF DUTCH ACCEPTANCE
OF URENCO COMPROMISE

REF: A. THE HAGUE 3662 (NOTAL); B. BRASILIA 4647

1. IN A LENGTHY SIGNED ARTICLE IN THE SUNDAY, 2 JULY, EDITION
ON THE ESTADO DE SAO PAULO, CARLOS CONDE, THE NEWSPAPER'S
BRASILIA DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT, ASSESSED THE URENCO AFFAIR
AND ITS OUTCOME AS "THE DEFINITIVE TEST OF BRAZIL'S ABILITY
TO RESIST PRESSURE". ACCORDING TO CONDE, THE GOB CONSIDERS THE
OUTCOME TO BE A CLEAR VICTORY FOR ITSELF AND ATTRIBUTES
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PAGE 02 BRASIL 05395 112243Z

THE VICTORY TO BRAZIL'S FIRMNESS IN RESISTING INTERNATIONAL
PRESSURES AGAINST ITS NUCLEAR PROGRAM.

2. CONDE TERMS THE DUTCH "THE MOST FAITHFUL EUROPEAN DISCIPLES
OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S POSITION ON NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION".
AND GOES ON TO SAY THE THE GOB HAS INSINUATED THAT IT WOULD
LIKE THE URENCO EPISODE TO SERVE AS AN EXAMPLE TO THE US.

HE DESCRIBES THE PRESENT SITUATION BETWEEN THE US AND BRAZIL AS ONE IN WHICH A LESS IMPERIAL BUT STILL PERSISTENT USG CONTINUES TO REGARD THE BRAZILIAN NUCLEAR PROGRAM WITH SUSPICION, AND REPORTS THAT BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES REGARD THE VISIT OF AMBASSADOR SMITH AS A POSITIVE "BUT NOT DEFINITIVE" (IN QUOTES IN THE ORIGINAL ARTICLE) DEVELOPMENT.

3. COMMENT: CONDE OFTEN REFLECTS FOREIGN MINISTRY POSITIONS IN HIS REPORTING, BUT IN THIS CASE SEEMS TO BE REPORTING AN INITIAL EUPHORIC REACTION TO THE DUTCH VOTE WHICH HAS NOT BEEN APPARENT IN SUBSEQUENT EMBOFF CONTACTS WITH BRAZILIAN OFFICIALS. FOR EXAMPLE, SCICOUN DISCUSSED THE SUBJECT WITH COLONEL LUIZ FERREIRA, THE NUCLEAR ADVISOR TO MINISTER OF MINES AND ENERGY UEKI, WHO WAS PLEASED WITH THE OUTCOME OF THE URENCO DISPUTE BUT FAR SHORT OF EUPHORIC. ALTHOUGH HE CLEARLY BELIEVED IN THE INHERENT CORRECTNESS OF THE BRAZILIAN POSITION, HE DESCRIBED THE AFFAIR AS A CLOSE THING IN WHICH THE ULTIMATE OUTCOME WAS NEVER A FOREGONE CONCLUSION. SAYRE

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Message Attributes

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